

# Becoming a Technocrat

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IT HAS a different atmosphere, perhaps, than anything that you have experienced previously, this Technocracy meeting. Here you are to listen to a lecture on the information an acquaintance of yours has outlined briefly. There seemed, at the time of the discussion, to be something concrete for a change in an organization's approach to the problem of war, depression, social problems, and this much discussed problem of resource conservation.

Ushers guide you to a seat with a not unfriendly, but rather detached attitude. It leaves with you the idea that these Technocrats are doing you a favor by holding this lecture, and that you are not doing them a favor by coming to hear it. Presently, after preliminary explanation of what the 'Question' and 'Expression of Interest' Cards are to be used for, the Chairman of the Meeting introduces the Speaker of the evening.

## *IT'S DIFFERENT*

Dressed in Official Grey, an Authorized Speaker for Technocracy mounts the podium. The half-expected high-flown oratory of the politician does not descend upon your ears. Instead, a carefully prepared dissertation on the problems which confront the American people holds your rapt attention. You have never heard anything to compare with this presentation. It seems almost as if for years you had been viewing the difficulties of America through a movie camera which was badly out of focus. Now there is being presented a concise outline of the basic reasons for the general condition of maladjustment in this Continental area, as seen through the eyes of the scientific world. And, typically, through the efforts of engineers and technicians in Technocracy, a solution to the problems presented has been provided. It makes sense, once the problems are understood in a general way, and understanding is necessarily general when you have viewed the staggering magnitude these problems represent.

In the Question Period some of the missing parts of the picture fall into place for you. The Speaker explains in a clear manner the questions the audience asks him about Technocracy. This whole Organization is amazing.

If Technocracy is correct in its analysis, something drastic is going to happen in North America, unless Americans 'get the lead out of their pants.' You see your initial job

as being one of investigating Technocracy. Certainly if so many people are taking their time and money to support Technocracy it warrants your attention. The speaker has momentarily opened the door to the scientific world to you. It is closed now, with the conclusion of the lecture. Whether it remains so permanently is entirely up to you. In your case, the compelling force with which the problems discussed have been brought home to you is the motivating factor for further investigation. Personnel at the lecture provide you with a Membership Application Form, which you fill out and turn in. You are now on your long journey to becoming a Technocrat. But you have had enough of Technocracy to mull over for one evening.

As you study the Organization, the tremendous scope of the information in Technocracy becomes known to you. Here is thirty years of scientific research. Naturally, first attempts to explain what you have heard and read about Technocracy are feeble and incoherent. It is only by conscious effort that you begin to assimilate the pattern of information which the Technocrats have drawn for you. The Official Publications from Continental Headquarters, the Study Course book and Study Classes provided by your local Section, the Field Publications, and additional lectures and conversations with fellow Technocrats are the means at your disposal to begin to understand the purpose and objective of Technocracy in being in existence.

What you have already come in contact with in the way of information is sufficiently intriguing to whet your appetite for more of Technocracy. There follow many evenings at home pouring over the Publications of the Organization. Many more hours are spent in the Section discussing various aspects of the points which are not quite clear in your mind. Gradually, more of the picture shapes up in an understandable manner. You feel that you now have some comprehension of the gigantic scope of America's difficulties, insofar as explaining them to someone else is concerned. Therefore it is your duty to enlighten your friends and acquaintances, and whoever else may be within reach. This period may well be the most trying in your Technocratic career.

### *COLLISIONS WITH STUPIDITY*

You lash out at anyone in your proximity, with no thought given to the fact that Technocracy is science, and thus is often foreign to those with whom you try to discuss its analysis and solution. These first headlong dives into social inertia leave you bewildered, and a trifle shaken. Why can't the public understand as you feel you do? Wiseacres and 'profound thinkers' more often than not tie you up in knots. But this sort of thing is good for you. It either makes you withdraw from the fray, or it forces you to sew up the holes in your discussion. More study is the answer. You are realizing now that study is an endless thing. And through study you learn facts about human behavior.

Earliest head-on collisions with social stupidity you have experienced are now recognized as having had little constructive value, other than broadcasting the name of Technocracy. (This end you learn to accomplish in the future without an undue expenditure of energy.) The discussion, you presently learn, must be directed toward persons who indicate an ability to comprehend the significance of what Technocracy is saying.

It is further discovered that when discussing Technocracy every Technocrat must be accurate, as accurate as science, which he is representing. It must be understood that accuracy and clarity in dealing with Technocratic information make more Members for Technocracy.

The pace of the educational program of Technocracy is regulated by the state of affairs in this Continental area and in the world. This fact is made clear to you when you apply yourself to the study of science. As conditions of a social nature grow steadily worse, more pressure is applied to Technocracy for information. A new Member may find it hard to reconcile himself to the necessity for carefully planned procedure. You want everything to happen at once. It takes time for you to discern exactly where the scientific method ends and politics begins. There is no room for politics in Technocracy. There is no room for compromise with the Price System. The present state of physical development of North America precludes utilization of any part of Price System concepts. It may be in this respect that Technocracy is best distinguished from any other social movement in North America.

Of paramount importance is the fact that the analysis and synthesis of the Organization are not founded upon a view for accomplishing social reformation. What is considered 'justice' and 'equality' and other intangible 'democratic' terms so widely used is not the concern of Technocracy. It is not with antipathy that Technocracy views the Price System. The inequalities in the distribution of physical wealth must be considered as nothing more than an outgrowth of conditions inherent in the system.

Technocracy Inc. is carrying on an educational program in an effort to make as large a portion of the population as possible aware of what is causing the Price System to reach a point of absolute ineffectiveness, and what can and must be done to prevent the occurrence of a state of complete disintegration of our society in North America. That is the central purpose of Technocracy's existence in the Price System structure. You arrive at this understanding attitude by careful observation and study.

As a thinking person, you probably recognized before investigating Technocracy that the Price System method of operation had about gone to its limits. It then follows that, if the Price System cannot do the job of functioning successfully to distribute the abundance of goods and services provided by technology in North America, a superior

energy technique must be instituted in its place. On this premise Technocracy's concept projected for the New America, being exclusively scientific, is diametrically opposed to Price System thought and philosophy. Scientific facts are ruthlessly exact and uncompromising.

Carryovers of our philosophical ideas, where they have been applied to the physical means whereby we live, are invalidated by technological development. Technocracy has succeeded in splitting the tangible away from the intangible, the ponderable away from the imponderable, and the physical away from the metaphysical. These distinctions are imperative if you are to use the scientific method in isolating physical problems. Beliefs and opinions are worth nothing when there are facts to deal with in solving problems of a material nature.

### *YOUR THOUGHT PROCESS CHANGES*

As an individual you are aware now that you are undergoing a complete reconstruction of your thought process. Technocracy's method of attaining the end product of a Technocrat is scientific. It is a clean break with the Price System educational technique.

These points and many more you make use of in the journey toward understanding Technocracy. You are no longer just one of the herd; nor are you subjected to the criticism directed at the high tide of social ignorance extant today.

As reported by the Everett Daily Herald of April 21, 1949, Joseph M. Tewinkle, of Spokane said, when speaking before the British Columbia Teachers' Federation and the B. C. Parent-Teachers' Association at Vancouver, B. C.,

*'Many (Americans) are frivolous, selfindulgent, lawless, irresponsible, bigoted, mass-minded, social and political ne'er-do-wells, who know little and care less about the state of the nation,' but they consider themselves 'good citizens.'*

With this foundation of fundamental understanding, you have removed yourself from the above category. You should be filled with a feeling of self-satisfaction by having shown that you are a thinking American, making an effort to understand and to show others the way to understand the problems of North America. You are on your way to becoming a well-informed Technocrat. Thus you have proved yourself to be a loyal and responsible citizen of North America.

—Harry Briggs, 12247-1.

<http://archive.org/details/TheNorthwestTechnocrat-July1949>